



Acquisition Mission — Bavarian Review

R C O B a v a r i a



Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2007

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Army Announces New MOS: 51C

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC) introduced the Army's newest Career Management Field (CMF) and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS): AL&T Contracting NCO, MOS 51C.

AL&T Contracting NCOs will be assigned to the U.S. Army Sustainment Command's Contracting Support Brigades, Contingency Contracting Battalions, Senior Contingency Contracting Teams, and Contingency Contracting Teams. All Contracting Commands, Units and Teams are a part of the modular contracting force structure and generation cycle that provides Contingency Contracting support to combatant Commanders and their Soldiers. The AL&T Contracting NCOs will have the potential to become warranted Contingency Contracting Officers (CCOs), and as such will be authorized to provide limited contracting support for minor construction projects for deployed forces.

The creation of this CMF and MOS will ensure the Army has a sufficient number of trained, certified and experienced AL&T NCOs able to support the expeditionary and modular forces' full-range of operations on the battlefield. These NCOs will perform critical contracting functions vital to the Army's contingency operations and missions.

USAASC will be the proponent for the AL&T contracting NCOs and will be

responsible for their life-cycle management processes, including recruitment, retention, individual training and education, distribution, sustainment, professional development, and separation.

Soldiers currently holding the MOS 92A (Automated Logistics Specialist) or 92Z (Senior Noncommissioned Logistician) with ASI G1 (Contracting Agent) may apply for reclassification to MOS 51C. (The ASI Y2 will be used to identify Soldiers selected for, and in, the program until they complete all qualification training.)

Reclassification of Soldiers into to 51C may begin in January 2007. Effective October 1, 2007, SSG and SFC MOS Soldiers who have less than 10 years of active duty service in the Regular Army, AR and NG, and meet MOS 51C prerequisites, will be allowed to request reclassification. Detailed information about the new MOS, to include prerequisites, is available at:

<http://asc.army.mil/programs/nco/assilmilati on.cfm>.

Further instructions will be announced by memorandum, Notification of Future Change (NOFC) E-0704-36, and posted in the electronic DA Pam 611-21 Smartbook. For more information in Germany, contact SGM Robert L. Palmer, CSM, 409th Contracting Support Brigade, Europe at Robert.l.palmer@eur.army.mil.



Hails and Farewells

Erik Retires!



MR. ERIK BUNDY

Well, Erik decided it's time to stop wearing that tie every day, and he and his wife Eleanor are heading to North Carolina where Erik plans on writing books, and where he and Eleanor will be able to enjoy their family in the beauty of the eastern seaboard.

Erik began his career as an active duty Sailor (oh, so many, many) years ago. Along the way he met Eleanor Parker, and the two of them and their son Henry have poked around the world's most far-flung corners, nooks and crannies ever since.

After many years of Federal Service, including USACCE Headquarters, Erik spent the last



five as our beloved RCO Benelux Chief. Erik ends his career on a high note with a Meritorious Service Medal, and best wishes for a long, healthy and happy retirement from a long list of friends.

Keep in touch, Erik!

Carl Heads for the Midwest...



LTC Scott Danner, COL Stephen Leisenring, Randy Hamilton, and Carl Foshay.

After 18 years in USACCE, Carl Foshay is moving on to great and green pastures as the DOC at Fort Leavenworth.

As you all know, Carl spent 8 years as the Chief of Contracts at Bad Kreuznach, then 7 years as the Chief of Contracts here in Grafenwoehr, followed by 3 years as the Deputy Commander at the Wiesbaden Contracting Center.

We wish Carl and Dianne the best of luck, and much happiness in their new home.

Keep in touch, Carl!



Carl Foshay receives the Army Civilian Achievement Medal from Colonel Stephen Leisenring.



Carl Foshay and Deb Daniels.



Santa Carl....



Carl on the Greens....



Carl at a Christmas Party....



MARCH 2007



Carl and Dianne Foshay at their farewell luncheon.



*Senate passes ethics bill
limiting lobbyist
influence.*

*The GSA increased the POV
mileage reimbursement
rate by 4 cents
to \$0.48.*

*The more Federal Managers
try Tele-working,
the more they
like it....*

*There's a new name for the
GSA's official Website:
USA.gov*

Federal Register

Comment By MAR 23:

1. Berry Amendment Restrictions (2006-D031). DoD has issued an interim rule amending the DFARS to implement Section 833(b) of the FY06 NDAA. Section 833(b) expands the foreign source restrictions applicable to the acquisition of clothing to also include clothing materials and components, other than sensors, electronics, or other items added to, and not normally associated with, clothing and the materials and components

thereof. Affected subparts/sections: 225.70; 252.212; 252.225; PGI 225.70.

2. Emergency Acquisitions (2006-D036). DoD has issued an interim rule amending the DFARS to provide a single reference to DoD-unique acquisition flexibilities that may be used to facilitate and expedite acquisitions of supplies and services during emergency situations. Affected subparts/sections: DFARS Table of Contents; Part 218 Table of Contents; 218.1; 218.2.

Interagency Contracting Gets Bad Rap

The GAO unveiled its list of high-risk government programs and practices that are highly vulnerable to "Mismanagement, Misuse and Waste," and for the second time in a row Multiple Agency Contracts (MACs), or Inter-Agency contracting, appears there. Citing poorly defined requirements,

inadequate competition, insufficient oversight, and the fact that there are just too many of them (41 MACs alone with more than 200 others available through inter-agency agreements) were cited by the GAO and the DoD IG as concerns.

Federal Times, 02/05/07.

More FY07 Transformations Announced

USAREUR continues to consolidate its assets at enduring locations in support of the Army transformation and DoD's overall plan to increase strategic responsiveness in the face of threats posed by the Global War on Terrorism. The following units are relocating to the USAG-Grafenwoehr:

- 574th Supply Company;
- 1st Inland Cargo Transfer Company;
- 5th Maintenance Company (Ordnance); and

- Headquarters, and Headquarters Detachment, 709th Military Police Battalion.

Other changes are taking place at Mons, Belgium, where the U.S.A. Army NATO Brigade is reorganizing, and its Headquarters is relocating to Heidelberg. The Brigade's three subordinate battalions are AFNORTH (in Brunsum, The Netherlands), AFSOUTH (in Naples, Italy) and SHAPE (Mons, Belgium). Bavarian News, 02/21/07.

*Questions?*

Contact Georg Hoesl,
at DSN 475-8720.

Or email the Instructor at:
USACCE_Training_POC@
hq.usacce.army.mil

Certify GPC accounts
by the 19th..

USACCE COR Training Schedule**2nd Quarter**

012	05 – 08 MAR 07	Heidelberg
014	12 - 15 MAR 07	Ansbach
015	19 - 22 MAR 07	Bamberg
016	26 - 30 MAR 07	Grafenwoehr (GTA)/Vilseck

3rd Quarter

018	02 - 05 APR 07	Stuttgart
019	16—19 APR 07	Schweinfurt (tentative)
021	23 - 26 APR 07	Heidelberg
023	07 -11 MAY 07	Livorno
025	14 - 18 MAY 07	Vicenza
027	21 - 24 MAY 07	Heidelberg
029	18 - 21 JUN 07	Heidelberg

Refresher Class

013	09 MAR 07	Heidelberg
017	30 MAR 07	Grafenwoehr (GTA)/Vilseck
020	20 APR 07	Schweinfurt (tentative)
022	27 APR 07	Heidelberg
024	11 MAY 07	Livorno (tentative)
026	18 MAY 07	Vicenza (tentative)

GPC Training (Bldg 244, GTA)**2nd Quarter**

MAR	21st	28th
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3rd Quarter

APR	18th	25th
MAY	23rd	30th
JUN	20th	22nd

4th Quarter

JUL	18th	25th
AUG	14th	29th
SEP	19th	26th

Need to get into a class? Call Gabi Neubauer at DSN 475-8718, or Karin Garcia at DSN 475-8712.

NSPS Training Dates to Meet...**Supervisors and Managers:**

MAR 2:	Continuous Performance Assessment
MAR 15:	Communication Skills for Leadership

Employees:

MAR 16:	Performance-based Appraisal—An Employee Overview
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“This isn’t [just] a DHS problem... The shortage of 1102s is severe and pervasive throughout the federal government”.

*Elaine Duke,
Homeland Security*

*Integrity, Accountability,
Transparency.....*

*No matter who’s in charge,
quality performance
is the goal....*

Workload Overwhelms Procurement Staff

Looking for a job? The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) must triple the size of its procurement workforce to handle its \$16B in contracts. And even that may not be enough.

Understaffing has plagued DHS’ acquisition operations since the Department’s inception in 2003, and has fueled contract mismanagement that has wasted millions — perhaps billions, of dollars. According to the DHS, it needs at least 2,533 procurement staffers, which is 1,636 more than it has now. Some good news is that DHS

plans on hiring 200 to 300 this fiscal year.

While understaffing contributes to contract mismanagement, poor contract planning, inadequate training and the challenge of bringing together a mix of cultures have also hindered efforts to become a better buying organization. Four years after the 22 agencies that make up the department came together, 8 offices are still knitting together the varying cultures of the component organizations. Federal Times, 01/22/07 (and see Letters to Editor, 02/05/07).

Coast Guard Gets Direct Hire Authority

Hundreds of millions of dollars are waiting to be spent by the Coast Guard for its Deepwater Modernization program, delayed by both program changes as well as a lack of trained staff to administer a bewildering variety of contracts. The lack of trained contract experts has been a growing problem with Deepwater. Since 2005, 40 Contracting Officer positions have been

added, boosting the Deepwater total to 285, and the service is seeking more. Federal Times, Jan 15, 2007.

A \$24B, 25-year effort to replace and modernize the Coast Guard’s cutters, aircraft and command-and-control systems, the program dwarfs previous Coast Guard acquisition efforts. Federal Times, 01/15/07. (See Letters to Editor, 01/29/07).

ICE—Tell us what you think!

The Interactive Customer Evaluation (**ICE**) system is a web-based tool that collects feedback on services provided by various organizations throughout the Department of Defense (DoD).

The **ICE** system allows customers to submit on-line comment cards to rate the service providers they have encountered at military installations and related facilities around the world.

ICE is designed to improve customer service by allowing managers to monitor the satisfaction levels of services they provide through customer comments and customer comment-based reports.

We encourage you to use **ICE**. You can locate our link by accessing the **ICE** link (ice.disa.mil), and following the links to Army, Europe, USACCE, and finally to RCO Bavaria.



The new law is aimed at crimes like torture, rape, and murder ..

Law Subjects Contractors to Military Justice

A five-word revision of the U.S. legal code, passed virtually unnoticed by Congress last fall, made U.S. civilians working for the U.S. military in Iraq, Afghanistan or other contingency operations” subject to the UCMJ.

The change was intended to close a loophole that has enabled contractor personnel to escape punishment for violating the law. But a result may be that Contractors now can be punished for actions not ordinarily prosecutable

under U.S. law. (For example, a civilian contractor who utters a few (unprintable) words to a military officer may now be court-martialed.)

The new law is aimed at crimes like torture, rape, and murder, and other abuses committed by civilian interrogators at Abu Ghraib, where “some members of the military were held accountable, but the Contractors were never brought to account.” Federal Times, 01/15/07.

San Diego is the fifth most popular destination for Federal travel.

Army Outsources Its Hotels

The Army has 16,000 hotel rooms scattered throughout the US and wants to turn them over to Contractors already in the Hospitality business. In the face of a protest from AAFES, the Army awarded an open-ended contract to the joint venture of Actus Lend Lease LLC/ InterContinental Hotel Group (IHG) to lease forty-eight hotel properties on more than a dozen Army Installations

with the option of adding another 100 hotels at almost four dozen more.

Not only will the move bring a commercial feel to the hotels, the rates charged by IHG cannot exceed 75% of the per diem allowed for traveling soldiers, and in some cases the rates will be even lower than that. Federal Times, 01/29/07.



Reserve Officers Charged with Fraud on Iraq Contracts

Three high-ranking Army Reserve Officers were charged with steering more than \$8.6M in Iraqi Reconstruction contracts to a U.S. businessman in exchange for cash, luxury cars, liquor and other payoffs.

Colonel Curtis Whiteford, Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Debra Harrison, and LTC Michael Wheeler allegedly rigged bids for more than 27 projects, and LTC

Harrison’s husband was charged with four counts of money laundering for allegedly helping to smuggle some of the stolen money into the U.S. and using it to build a deck and hot tub at their New Jersey home.

The officers allegedly kept the contracts under the \$500K threshold that would have required approval by a board in Baghdad. Federal Times, 01/12/07.



How to Contact Us!

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Acquisition is All About Mission.....



The RCO Bavaria is located on the second floor of Building 244, near Gate 3 of the Grafenwoehr Training Area. We're in the same building as SATO, CPAC, Housing, Driver's Education, etc.).

We are a team of dedicated military and civilian Contracting Officers, Specialists, Analysts, and Support Staff, and are all here to help you. Call DSN 475-8712 if you'd like to make an appointment with one of our professional staff members.

RENTAL OR PURCHASE OF FEST TENTS AND THE BERRY AMENDMENT

In 1952, Congressman E.Y. Berry of South Dakota proposed legislation to restrict Government purchases of textiles not made in the United States. The resulting law, commonly called the "Berry Amendment," was a relatively unknown provision of Government Procurement Law until the Spring of 2001 when the Defense Logistics Agency purchased black berets for all Army military personnel.

The berets were produced in China, Romania, Sri Lanka and other low-wage countries due to lack of U.S. capacity to produce the required 4.8 million berets in an 8 month period. Congress reacted by tightening enforcement procedures and expanding the scope of materials covered by the Amendment.

In considering the issue, a common reaction by Government personnel overseas is that the Buy American Act (BAA) does not apply overseas, so we are not affected. While it is generally true that the BAA does not apply overseas, the Berry Amendment is a different Federal statute and does apply overseas. Current restrictions under the Amendment include tents, canvas, and synthetic fabrics.

For RCO Bavaria customers there is particular impact regarding acquisition - either through rental or purchase - of "fest tents" in their various uses. Because



E.Y. BERRY

those structures are generally synthetic fabric, it has been determined that the Berry Amendment applies for most requirements exceeding \$100,000.

If you anticipate such a requirement please plan ahead and provide sufficient notice to the RCO to determine whether Berry Amendment provisions will need to be included in the solicitation and the potential impact that will have.

Should you have questions, please contact our office.